PHILIP MORRIS INCORPORATED INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE RICHHOND, VIRGINIA

To:

Mr. H. Merritt

Date: June 15, 1960

From:

L. S. Harrow

Subject:

Proposed Coroborative Proof of Innocuousness of Bentonite.

With reference to the suggestion made by Dr. Solomon that some simple animal tests might be made which could show the lack of respiratory tree ill effects produce because of bentonite incorporated in filler, I have discussed this matter with Dr. Kenneth Morgareidge of FDRL and Dr. J. L. Radomski, pharmacologist, at the University of Miami School of Medicine. Both consultants concur in the opinion that (1) the demonstration of relative freedom from debris of the particulate matter collection pad interposed in the smoke stream of a bentonite treated cigarette relative to that interposed in the smoke stream of a control cigarette constitutes the most practical proof of the innocuousness of the bentonite addition. (2) a coroborative study of animal respiratory tree after exposure to smoke from bentonite and control cigarettes would yield observable differences only if these tests were carried out using inordinately high levels of bentonite over long periods of time and in large animal populations. They both feel that this test would be extremely expensive, time consuming and possibly inconclusive.

For this reason, I recommend that we go the rest of the way on this problem with the data presently in hand, unless, we reach the stage of a major commitment by the company and a major objection is raised to our present evidence. I will, of course, explore this matter further if you desire.

LSH:mar

cc: Dr. R. B. Seligman Dr. H. Wakeham del

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